

## Competition Etiquette Guidelines

Our organizational philosophy is that we are there to support every Marching Bands efforts, not just our own. A competition is an opportunity to show our respect and admiration for all of the young men and women who work so hard to produce a quality performance.

While half time shows at the football games offer an opportunity to perform for the community, Band Competitions allow the finer points of a performance to be appreciated. Band Competitions call for special considerations from the audience so that everyone can enjoy all of the performances.

We have a responsibility to represent our community, our school and our band students in a positive and supportive manner.

Please keep the following points in mind whenever you are part of a Band Competition audience:

- ❖ Save your conversations for the times between the performances. Others want to hear the music and enjoy the show.
- ❖ Silence your cell phones.
- ❖ Wait until a Marching Band has completed their show before you leave or return to your seat. Entering or leaving the stand during a bands performance is distracting to those watching.
- ❖ Do not say anything negative about the performance of another Band while you are at a competition. You never know who is sitting, standing or walking near you. Your remarks will hurt the feelings of a parent whose child has worked just as hard as yours and it will leave a lasting negative impression of our school and community.
- ❖ If you hear someone in the stands making derogatory comments about our band or students please ignore them. They are not worth the time and effort of responding.
- ❖ Always applaud every bands performance equally – ours included – talented soloists or special marching accomplishments. The students in every band work hard, for long hours to perfect their performance and they enjoy your appreciation of their efforts.
- ❖ However excited you are when we win please keep to just clapping at the competition. When we return to the Band Room we can then celebrate.
- ❖ Stand while a band is leaving the field as a mark of respect for their hard work.
- ❖ For outdoor events, always be prepared for inclement weather with a poncho or raincoat. Please do not use an umbrella. Umbrellas block the view of people behind you and the spokes can be dangerous in the close quarters of stadium seating. They also drip on people around you.
- ❖ If you use your video camera to record a performance at local competitions, stand where you will not block the view of other people in the stadium. \*\*BOA Competitions forbid the use of video recordings.
- ❖ Do not disturb the judges or completion officials. Do not approach or interrupt the concentration of the band directors, instructors or the students. They are all focusing on the upcoming performance.
- ❖ Attend as many performances as possible to support our students and enjoy the show.
- ❖ If you see a host or volunteer, please thank them for their efforts and hard work in providing the event for our students.
- ❖ When entering or leaving the stadium area, please stop to let a Marching Band through. Please don't break through their line.